

## POSITION STATEMENT

# Physicians Performing X-ray Examinations

## Purpose

Position statements from the College provide background information and express or clarify the College's intent on a particular matter. They are intended as guidance for stakeholders in areas where events are evolving or changing rapidly, the implementation of processes and procedures may be premature, or it is timely to communicate the College's broad intent before or as policies and procedures are developed.

This document clarifies diagnostic imaging standards DMS3.0 that address physicians performing radiographic/radioscopic examinations.

DMS3.0      Physicians who operate radiographic and/or radioscopic equipment have the necessary education, knowledge and skills to do so safely and effectively.

## Background

The DAP developed this position statement to clarify the standard in response to requests from health authority diagnostic imaging facilities for primary care physicians operating radiographic equipment and performing x-ray examinations.

## Position

Diagnostic imaging using x-rays should only be performed by qualified individuals to ensure safe practice and quality images. The requirement for operating radiation equipment is a two year post graduate course and certification with the Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologists (CAMRT). The competencies that must be met to complete training in medical radiation technology are available here.

Imaging by non-qualified practitioners, including physicians, is not permitted for diagnostic purposes.

Limited radiologic or radioscopic imaging is permitted if the DAP standards DMS3.0 (Physicians who operate radiographic and/or radioscopic equipment have the necessary education, knowledge and skills to do so safely and effectively) are met, and if the imaging is for procedures/localization only (injections, etc.).

## References

[Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologists](#)

[DAP Diagnostic Imaging Standards](#)

## Contact

For further information, please contact [dap@cpsbc.ca](mailto:dap@cpsbc.ca).